

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

April 2025

Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, April 15, 2025

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings to all,

I would like to start this month's letter off mentioning the 2024 September ARRL VHF Contest results for that contest that ran September 14 – 16, 2024. I'd like to recognize OVH's own Vice President, Gil / KM4OZH, for placing second in his category, "Limited Rover" with 13,986 points. Gill is now "Officially Famous" with his listing in the April, 2025 issue of QST magazine at pages 76 and 77.



Next up to be mentioned is last month's Virginia QSO Party (VAQP) which took place on March 15th and 16th. Gil was also very active in that event and had plenty of (mis)adventures again, including a deer vs. car encounter / contest. It is a good story if you can get Gil to tell it, and he tells it well. I am not sure I would have been as sanguine as he was.

I do hope all OVH members remembered to put our club down on their VAQP logs when submitting them. If you have not yet submitted your VAQP log, you have until April 15th, 2025. The submittal options can be found at: https://qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2025_VQP/2025_VQP_Log_Submittal.html A \$1.00 donation to help defray the costs of printing and mailing is encouraged when you submit your VAQP log. If you prefer "snail mail", submit log entries by postal mail to: The VA QSO Party, Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167. If you have any problems, please send an email to vqp@arrl.net.

At our last regular meeting on March 18th, the presentation was by Jerry Stuckle, AI0K, of NWS, who gave a presentation about the SKYWARN program. Thank you, Jerry. I know I will be signing up for the Basic SKYWARN courses, after the current kerfuffle with the Federal Government settles down, and also after I heal. With that segue,

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 4293
Manassas, Virginia 20108-0728

OFFICERS

President:	Ken Brant	KN4DD	622-2638
Vice Pres:	Gil Thompson	KM4OZH	369-0431
Secretary:	John Heartney	KG4NXT	257-3566
Treasurer:	Jeff Porter	K9VEG	216-7734

DIRECTORS

Don (Butch) Blasdel	W4HJL	369-2877
Arthur Whittum	W1CRO	791-4330
Bob Zaepfel	K4HJF	282-2451
Theresa Heartney	KG4TVM	257-3566

WEEKLY FM REPEATER NET COORDINATOR

JOHN	KG4NXT	257-3566
Thurs - 8:00 PM Local Time		

TAILGATE (HAMFEST) 2024 - CHAIRMAN

Don	WA2SWX	597-3211
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FIELD DAY 2024 - CHAIRWOMAN

Cat	otohime.1978@gmail.com	KM4PBD	571-213-2179
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CLUB ROSTER / DATABASE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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VE COORDINATOR

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
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CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Open - volunteer needed!

ARES - EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Lane	KG4GIY	628-3868
See http://pwcares.org	email: kg4giy@arrl.net	

FINANCE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
Don	WA2SWX	597-3211

GENERATORS

Byron	AK4XR	222-2095
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794

WARRIOR BIKE RIDE - CHAIRMAN

Andy	andy@gamponia.com	KJ4MTP	785-4651
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WEB COMMITTEE — W4OVH.NET + Twitter & Facebook

Kevin	W4RKU	540-445-5183
John	KG4NXT	257-3566
Ken	KN4DD	622-2638

Web Committee "help request" email: webmaster@w4ovh.net

EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
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MANASSAS CHRISTMAS PARADE - OVH COORDINATOR

George	K4GVT	791-5956
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LEGAL

Bob	K4HJF	282-2451
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Luther	WA3FMO	361-4885
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NEWSLETTER

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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CHRISTMAS / YEAR END PARTY - CHAIRPERSON

Theresa.	KG4TVM	257-3566
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PROGRAMS

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
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QUARTERMASTER

Open - volunteer needed!

THURSDAY NIGHT NET / REPEATER CONTROLLERS

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
Ken	KE2N	753-8587
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794
James	KQ4CAX	628-5186
David	KG4GIY	361-3042
Cat	KM4PBD	571-213-2179

W4OVH — TRUSTEE

Gil	KM4OZH	369-0431
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W4PVA — TRUSTEE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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SCHOLARSHIP 2022

Ken	KN4DD	622-2638
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SUNSHINE

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Ken	KE2N	753-8587
Andy	KJ4MTP	786-4651
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Bob	K4HJF	335-1939
David	KG4GIY	628-3868
Gil	KM4OZH	369-0431

HISTORIAN

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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All telephone numbers listed above are for Area Code 703 unless otherwise noted. This is the official monthly publication of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc., a §501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Amateur Radio. Copyright © 2024 by the Ole Virginia Hams which holds its regular monthly meetings at 7:30 p.m. every third Tuesday at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station, 7190 Yates Ford Road, Manassas, Virginia except during the COVID pandemic (in 2020-2021) during which the monthly meetings were held online. The Newsletter will have login details for monthly online meetings if applicable. Members, prospective members and other interested persons are invited to attend without obligation. Local information can also be obtained through the OVH's FM repeaters on 146.970-, 224.660-, 442.200+ and 443.500+ MHz. Up to date information about OVH activities and its meetings is also available during the OVH's nets on its FM Repeater each Thursday night at 8:00 p.m. or through the OVH's web site at <http://w4ovh.net>. Articles in this newsletter may be reprinted if credit is given to the OVH ARC and other source(s) noted. Proposed materials for publication, classified ads, notes about specific errors, complaints or the like are solicited. Forward such items to the Newsletter Editor: paul@w4zb.com. Approx. Circ.: 170. Last Rev: 20240714

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a quick note that I will be having my second knee replacement surgery on April 2nd, and so expect me to be out for for a bit. John / KG4NXT, will be taking over my website duties from April 2nd until about April 9th, by which time I should be done with the pain medications and back to at least my duties as proof reader and webmaster. My duties as “the A/V Guy” will be distributed.

Back on March 22nd, the OVH held a VE Session. The “good news” about that, 100% of the candidates passed. Unfortunately, there was only one candidate for a ham license at that VE Session. I'd like to thank the VEs who attended: Mark / WA4KFZ (VE Session Lead), your truly, Ken / KN4DD; James / KQ4CAX and Byron / AK4XR.

A lot will be going on this upcoming Saturday, April 12th. The OVH's monthly breakfast returns that day at 8:00 AM at the Yorkshire Restaurant, 7537 Centreville Road, Manassas where OVH Club members get together on the Saturday just before the regular OVH monthly meeting at a table or two in the back of Yorkshire Restaurant for some good food and good conversation.

Also, Thawfest III at Ruckersville, Virginia will take place on April 12th. The OVH will have a table there, and if you are able to head down, you will be volunteered to spend some time supporting OVH's table. Hamfest at Ruckersville, Virginia - Admission \$10 - Saturday, April 12th, 8 AM - 11:30 AM, Madison County High School, 68 Mountaineer Lane, Madison, Virginia. The parking lot is near the football stadium. Talk in will be on 145.470. More info at <https://gcvarc.net/thawfest>

The OVH's next regular monthly meeting Tuesday, April 15th at 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM EDT at the Buckhall VFD Hall, 7190 Yates Ford Road, Manassas. Our presenter will be Wayne / N7QLK, formerly a local OVH member for many years who now resides in Central Florida and who will give a Zoom presentation about his recent trip to HamCation in Orlando.

Speaking of April 15th, that is also (again) Individual Income Tax Return Filing Day this year, but this year there is no “automatic” extra time this year because it is a Tuesday. However, you can get an extension (of several months) for filing your income tax return if you mail in an IRS Form 4868 by April 15th, – so that does not need to be a reason for missing our upcoming meeting! Make sure your rich Uncle Sam receives his proper documentation from you on time.

The Virginia QSO Party Award Presentations with Gordon . NQ4K, is planned to take place at the OVH's Tailgate Party (in lieu of a Hamfest) on Saturday, June 7th. More details when they become available. for Planning is well underway for the Tailgate Party as well the 2025 OVH/ARRL Field Day on June 21st and June 22nd. Both committees could use some extra help. If you have the time and inclination, we'd love to see you there.

Also, a reminder to check in to the OVH's Thursday night VHF/UHF repeater net at 8 PM.

The details for that are on the OVH's web site at <https://w4ovh.net>

Questions, comments and/or war stories can be directed to my e-mail: KN4DD@arrl.net

73 Ken KN4DD



Sunshine Corner



Happy Birthday wishes to the following OVH club members with birthdays in April: Harry / KC9TXL, Harry / KN4IJY, Brian / KK4CBS, Gene / KN4JMB, Gil / KM4OZH, Paul / N4PD, Joe / KI4OHR, Lillian / KK4MXV, David / KI4AZX, Everett / KJ4OLF, Paul / W4ZB, David / KD4DEE, Mark / KN4OGC and Paul / KO4UOO. Hope each of you have a great year ahead!

Condolences to the family of Ken WB4ZOH. Ken passed away at the beginning of April after being in hospice care for some time. Ken was a long time member of the OVH and was the net control of the Thursday Night Net for several years. Per Ken's wishes there will not be a service. A 1970's Ham Shack picture of Ken / WB4ZOH appears later in this Newsletter, along with a much more recent image of Ken while attending a Manassas Hamfest event just a few years ago.

Thawfest III is Saturday, April 12th at the Madison High School off of Rt 29 about an hour south of Manassas. John / KG4NXT and I will be set up in the seller's section to hand out OVH Tailgate flyers and to sell a printer and a K3 radio.

The 2025 Virginia QSO Party is in the books! I hope you all had a good time with this contest. If you haven't turned in your log you still have a few days to be able to do that. Please remember to add the OVH as your club to the log. Gil KM4OZH has a wild story about his QSO Party adventure, if you see him ask about this! Don't forget the award ceremony will be at our Tail Gate event on June 7th.

Planning meetings are happening for Tailgate event on June 7th and for Field Day which will be on June 28th and 29th. Flyers for these event appear later in this Newsletter. These events are always a success when we have a great club turnout! Check out the club calendar at w4ovh.net for more information.

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, June 7th for the OVH Tailgate event! Volunteers are needed; please let us know how you can help.

Remember that the OVH Thursday night VHF and UHF FM net is at 8:00 pm each Thursday evening. It is a great way to keep up with current events and hear what other active OVH members are up to with their radios! Details are on the W4OVH.NET web site.

Please send me your news, good, not so good and ham related info!

73 Theresa / KG4TVM kg4tvm@hotmail.com Tel: 703-257-3566

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting held on March 18, 2025:

OVH President Ken / KN4DD called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on March 18th 2025 in the training room at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station. After the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and call signs.

Jerry / AI0K from the National Weather Service gave a presentation about the NWS' Skywarn program in which amateur radio operators participate. Training courses for that are available locally.

The minutes of the February 19, 2025 meeting were approved.

Jeff / K9VEG gave the Treasurer's and it was approved.

Luther / WA3FMO gave the membership report via email because of his recent operation. There was one vote-in and he was voted in as a new OVH member: Noah Lytle / KQ4IDI. There were also two new read-ins, and a vote will be held on each at the April meeting: Joseph A. Schlatter / W4HH and Carl Knauss / KI8GM.

ARES report. No report this month.

Ken / KE2N gave the Repeater report via email. All repeaters are working. No new DStar applications. The problems with the 220 machine continue.

Mark / WA4KFZ gave the training report. There will a VE session given on March 22, 2025 and VEs are needed for that.

Field Day – Thanks to Prince William Supervisor Victor Angry and Theresa / KG4TVM, the OVH has received explicit approval for use of the Nokesville Community Park overnight during the Field Day event. Chairwoman, Cat / KM4PBD, has scheduled a Field Day planning meeting for April 9th

Ken / KN4DD. Cyber attacks continue on W4OVH.NET but the software defenses are resisting them and holding. IP addresses which appear to be from Russia, but which are easily spoofed, again appear to have been the principal bad guys this past month. Ken will have his second knee replacement operation on April 2nd, and John / KG4NXT will care for the web site from April 2nd to April 7th.

Theresa / KG4TVM gave the Sunshine report. Birthdays were mentioned. She mentioned the upcoming Fredfest Hamfest on March 22nd. She also mentioned the upcoming Virginia QSO Party.

Tailgate – John / KG4NXT gave the report. He and Theresa went to the Vienna Hamfest on March 9th and will go to Fredfest and will have a table there too. They distribute Tailgate flyers at those Hamfests. A Google Docs volunteer signup sheet has been posted and more volunteers are needed. There will be a Tailgate Party planning meeting on March 25th.

No 50/50 raffle this month. Old Business: None. New Business: None

The meeting was then adjourned.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

Saturday, April 12, 2025. 8 AM - 11:30 AM, Thawfest III at Ruckersville, Virginia at the Madison County High School, 68 Mountaineer Lane, Madison, Virginia. The parking lot is near the football stadium. Talk in will be on 145.470. More info at <https://gcvarc.net/thawfest>

Saturday, May 3, 2025 - Hagerstown Hamfest - see two page flyer later in this Newsletter for full details and info.

Friday - Sunday, May 16 - 18, 2025. Dayton Hamvention, Ohio. See hamvention.org for more info. This is one of the biggest Hamfest events worldwide and should be visited at least once!

Thursday, May 15, 2025 - Dayton, Ohio - the day before the Dayton Hamvention begins, ContestUniversity.com will be holding an all day event and training event nearby. Vrey worthwhile to attend this if you are interested in contesting or high performance ham radio stations and operating.

Saturday, June 7, 2025 - 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The OVH's 2025 Tailgate Party in Manassas. See flyer later in this Newsletter, also info at. <https://w4ovh.net/welcome-to-manassas-hamfest> This is a major annual event for the OVH.

OVH EVENTS

The OVH's regular meeting for April 2025 will be on the third Tuesday in April, April 15th at the usual location, the Buckhall VFD Hall, 7190 Yates Ford Road, Manassas at 7:30 PM.

Saturday, June 28 through Sunday, June 29, 2025 - ARRL and OVH Field Day event put on by the OVH at the Nokesville Community Park. This is a major OVH family related event, with a club pot luck dinner on that Saturday evening. Save these dates now. More info to follow.

HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS

Also, see, <https://www.arrl.org/contests> for more information and details about many other contests on the ARRL maintained Contest web page, A more comprehensive, up-to-date, and long range planning contesting calendar with links to the rules for the various events is maintained at <https://contestcalendar.com> by WA7BNM. Another very good web site for info is NG3K.com. If you have the radio contesting bug or just want to find out how much is going on - a lot -, these are very good places to look!

PUBLIC EVENTS / PUBLIC SERVICE / ARES EVENTS

Check the online Calendar on the OVH's web site at W4OVH.NET for information about upcoming OVH related events. Also, check the online Calendar maintained by David / KG4GIY at <http://pwcares.org> for the latest PWC ARES updates. Complete direct contact information for David / KG4GIY also appears on page 2 of this Newsletter.

Remembering Ken / WB4ZOH, SK, long time OVH Member.



Ken / WB4ZOH in his 1970's Manassas Ham Shack which is complete with QSLs on the wall, a Model 19 Teletype machine and an elaborate, well equipped HF station.



At the Manassas Hamfest 7 or 8 years ago at the Fairgrounds.

Congratuations to Sam / KQ4SL!

OVH member, Sam / KQ4SL (to the right), recently passed the Extra Class exam at a W5YI VEC which posted his picture on its web site.



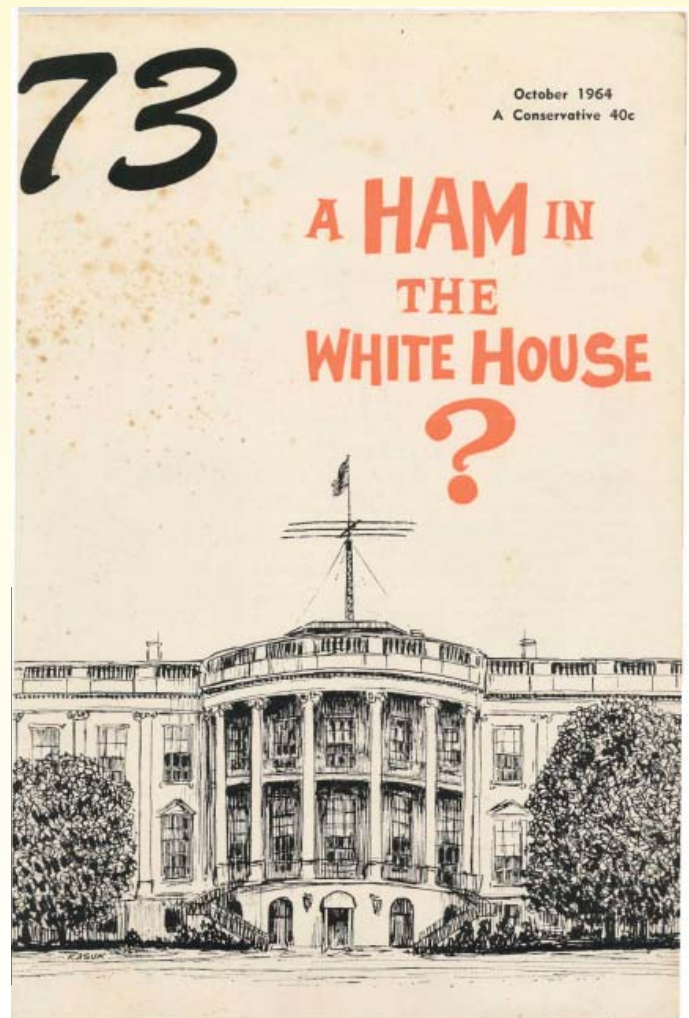
On the right, to the left, OVH member, Don / WA2SWX, now based in Ecuador, returned to the local area briefly to help activate the Conway Robinson State Park, a local POTA site. Also shown are John / KG4NXT and Gene / N4HFW. Not shown, Ken / KE2N and James / KQ4CAX .

Some Possibly Interesting or Useful Info

It is very rare for a ham radio operator to become the chief executive of a major country.

In the US, Senator Barry Goldwater / K7UGA lost in a landslide in the 1964 presidential election to President Lyndon Johnson. Johnson was JFK's vice president who became president when JFK was assassinated in November 1963. K7UGA continued to be a very active ham and could be heard (and worked) regularly while operating HF mobile from his car in Washington D.C. in the 1960s and 1970s. The publisher of 73 Magazine, Wayne Green / W2NSD/1, held out hope to the very end that K7UGA would become president. See the October 1964 73 Magazine cover from the 73 Magazine archive, the URL for which in the left margin. That archive includes a complete set of all 73 Magazines published from 1960 until 2003, and is an excellent reference source for the history of ham radio developments during that period.

Right now it appears Friedrich Merz, DK7DQ, will be chosen to be Chancellor (Prime Minister) of Germany in May, but there is still some doubt. DK7DQ is reputed to have been a high speed CW and SSB HF operator when he was younger.



The Great Hagerstown Hamfest

Saturday, May 3, 2025

Maugansville Bible Brethren Church

17904 Binkley Ave,

Maugansville, MD 21767

Sponsored by:

Antietam Radio Association (ARA)

Website: antietamradio.org

W3CWC/W3HPM



Hamfest Features

- Large Indoor Vendor Area (Sorry, outdoor tailgating pavilions and vehicle/trailer access to inside of Main Building are not available at this venue)
- Paved Open Tailgating Area
- Overnight monitoring provided for vendors who set up Friday evening inside main building. (Overnight monitoring not available outside main building. Set up at own risk.)
- ARA Club Equipment Sale & Auction
- Prize Drawings throughout the day! (Must be present to win non-cash prizes.)
- ARRL VEC TEAM Testing Session 1:00 PM Walk-Ins Accepted (check-in 12:30-12:45) NOTE FRN Number is Required In Advance)
- Checking QSL Cards
- QWCA -Quarter Century Wireless Association members are available for information
- Easy Access from I-81
- Food Concession serving Breakfast and Lunch 7 AM – 12:30 PM
- Commercial Eating Establishments at nearby I-81 exits

Tickets and Admission

General Admission: \$7.00 per person

Outdoor Tailgating: \$7.00 per 8 ft space

Indoor Tables in Main Building:

→ In Advance \$10.00 per table

→ Day of Hamfest \$15.00 per table

- General Admission Tickets are required of all tailgaters and vendors *in addition* to outdoor space or indoor table rental fee.
- All tables and spaces are rented on a First Come-First Served basis.
- All Payments must be by Cash or Check payable to Antietam Radio Association

Friday night setup is available after 6:00 PM

ADVANCE REGISTRATION - GUARANTEES SPACE!

=> Reserve Tables and Spaces by mail, email, or phone:
=> Mail orders: Please pay by check only. Do not mail cash. Send to P.O. Box address shown under CONTACTS (next page)
=> Email or Phone Orders: Use information shown below.
=> Deadlines: ALL reservations (mail, email and phone) must be received by APRIL 30. Orders received and paid by APRIL 21 will receive tickets by return mail. Later orders will be held for pickup at the Hamfest Club Table (Main Building)

For more information or reservations contact:

Hamfest Chairman: Joe Maguire (WA1ZZQ)

Email – maguirejb@gmail.com

Phone – 972-965-9486

Alternate Contact: Steve Struharik (WA8EIH)

Email – struhariks@gmail.com

Phone – 240-818-1248

Continued onto the following page!

Continued from the previous page!

SATURDAY HAMFEST SCHEDULE

*****Additional Items May Be Announced – Check our Website for Updates*****

06:00 AM Gates Open for Vendors & Tailgaters

07:00 AM Main Building Opens for Attendees

08:00 AM-12:00 PM Prize Drawings

(Must be present to win non-cash prizes)

08:30 AM-10:00 AM Forums – TBD

10:00 AM ARA Cake will be cut and ready to serve
It goes good with a cup of coffee!

10:00 AM Equipment Auction

(see our website antietamradio.org for current list)

12:30 PM ** HAMFEST ENDS**

1:00 PM ARRL VEC Team – Amateur License Exams
(please check-in for exam between 12:30-12:45 PM)

VEC details: Please see our Website:

<https://antietamradio.org/events/testing-session>

Our Hamfest Philosophy:

The emphasis has been and will always be on building an "old fashion" Hamfest. We will always try to include seminars, tailgate sales, inside sales, auction, the food concession, VE testing sessions, vendors and much, much more.....

Directions:

- Take I-81 N or S to Exit 10B (Showalter Rd West)
- Merge onto Showalter Rd West
- Go 0.3 mile to Maugansville Rd (tee intersection)
- Turn Left: (South) onto Maugansville Rd
- Go 0.1 mile to Binkley Ave
- Turn Right (West) onto Binkley Ave
- Go 0.1 mile to Bible Brethren Church on Right

GPS coordinates:

N 39° 41' 56.163", W 77° 44' 45.321"

Contacts:

For additional Information Contact:

<https://antietamradio.org/posts/great-hagerstown-hamfest-2025>

(Check for updates)

W3CWC

Antietam Radio Association

P O Box 52

Hagerstown, Maryland 21741-0052

Talk-In: W3CWC

Hamfest Repeater 147.090 +

(PL Tone 100 Hz)

Backup only

146.940 -

(PL Tone 100 Hz)

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***Please Note :***

***• Weapons, ammunition, or pornographic material may NOT be displayed or sold at the Hamfest site.***

***• NO alcohol or drugs are permitted at the Hamfest site.***

***• Commercial vendors are responsible for tax collections and should have proper tax/license certificate available.***

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The Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club

Is hosting a

HAM RADIO TAIL GATE PARTY

Saturday, June 7th, 2025

7 am to 1 pm

Across from Signal Hill Park in Manassas Park

General Admission \$8 per person over 14

\$20 per vehicle to set up (includes one admission ticket)

All attendees will park in the field

38° 45.2710'N, 77° 26.2800'W

Signal Hill Park address is 9300 Signal View Dr. Manassas Park, VA – the field is located on Signal View Drive across the street from the park entrance

The field is on the east side of Signal View Drive just past the National Monument for the First Battle of Manassas



More information www.w4ovh.net

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club

Cordially invites the public to attend

ARRL FIELD DAY



www.arrl.org

2:00 PM Saturday, June 28th - 2:00 PM Sunday, 29th

Nokesville Park, 12560 Aden Road, Nokesville, VA

Rain or Shine! We will be under the big pavilion. Come on out and tune in the world!

Saturday Night Pot Luck Dinner! Bring a favorite dish to share, dinner around 5 pm! This is a family event!

Balloon Launch Saturday afternoon

All are welcome!

Any questions; please see our webpage at www.w4ovh.net or Facebook Ole Virginia Hams W4OVH

GPS Coordinates Latitude 38.6853961°, Longitude:-77.5772117°
We are at the large Pavilion just past all the baseball fields.